

Item: RESO 08-259
Fiscal Impact: \$38,000
Funding Source: Federal Asset Forfeiture
Account #: 10-6516-40480-00000-0000
Budget Opening Required: _____

ISSUE:

A resolution authorizing the Police Department to expend funds to update the surveillance vehicle.

SYNOPSIS:

The Police Department’s surveillance vehicle is in need of updating, repair, and modernizing of the monitoring and recording equipment.

BACKGROUND:

The Police Department purchased its surveillance van from a company called Mattman Specialty Vehicles in San Marcos, California. This purchase was made in 2001. Since this van was built there have been tremendous advances in the cameras and recording devices used in surveillance operations. The analog recording systems are outdated and the camera systems are in need of repair and upgrades. Mattman Specialty Vehicles no longer specializes in small surveillance vehicles and now placing their emphasis on large command posts.

In the past, West Valley City used EME for work on specialty surveillance vehicles, but EME is no longer in business. The department has identified Specialty Vehicle Concepts, Inc. in Murray as being qualified to repair and replace the specialized surveillance equipment in the Specialized Response Vehicle (SRV). There are no other local companies that exclusively deal in specialty surveillance vehicles. There are companies that equip police cars with cameras, but those companies do not have experience specialized knowledge and expertise to conduct the technical and specialized work to the quality standard this van will need. Furthermore, the hardware installed during repairs to the SRV is proprietary to Specialty Vehicle Concepts Inc. and as the department updates the surveillance van, it is important the equipment is able to interface with both vehicles for cases in which both are used.

The money used for this upgrade will be funds awarded through Federal Asset Forfeiture.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Council approve \$38,000 for services and equipment from Specialty Vehicle Concepts Inc. to upgrade the surveillance van.

SUBMITTED:

Thayle “Buzz” Nielsen, Chief of Police